

Feather Inlays by Terry Henson



This is step 1 of inlaying a feather. Prepare the feather to be used. Cut the fuzz off the bottom of the feather if desired. I try to marry the fibers of the feathers as much as possible before I lay them in the rod. This gives the feather a natural appearance and makes it much easier to work with.



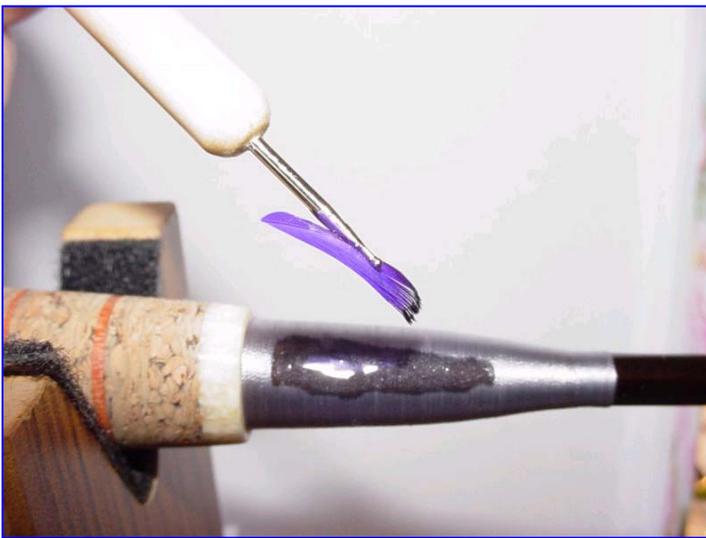
Trim the feather



Prepared feather is ready to be inlayed on the rod.



Put permagloss on the area where the feather goes



Step 3 Using a tacky needle, touch the feather picking it up with the needle. Lay it on the rod where you want the inlay to be.



Step 4 Set the feather on the rod and apply permagloss to the feather and smooth it in to place.



Step 5 Applying permagoss, smooth the feahter into place, trying to make it look natural laying on the rod. Let it dry and you are ready to coat it with a finishing epoxy like LS Supreme



Finish the rod with LS Supreme and you are done. The rod pictured here was not done. I usually add a trim band to hide the feather ends you see in this picture. Sorry, but this is all I had to demo the technique. Good Luck

A lot of folks ask this very question and I have never given advice on this subject before, but many builders on this board have. I think I will detail how I do it and we'll see what happens. For a picture step by step, see my gallery under my stage name Terry Henson. I will post the pictures after posting this message, so give me a minute or two to do it.

I use Permagloss to set my feathers. The epoxy is water thin and dries very fast. This is good if you are trying to straighten a feather that is crooked.

After the feathers are set, I coat or finish the rod using LS Supreme or Glass Coat, both work very well, but at this time, I prefer LS. Supreme.

I prefer to lay the feathers on thread, but that is not necessary.

Prepare the feather to be used. Cut the fuzz off the bottom of the feather if desired. I try to marry the fibers of the feathers as much as possible before I lay them in the rod. This gives the feather a natural appearance and makes it much easier to work with.

Using a needle, Lay down a little permagloss on the area where the inlay is going and using the wet needle, pick up the feather.

Try to hold the rod still and hold it in the position where the feather is going and gently lay the feather in the epoxy.

Wet the needle with more Permagloss, and coat the feather. The feather will bond to the rod or thread, providing you are not using a real stiff stem type feather.

Using the needle, push the fibers around to present a natural look and make sure the stem of the feather aligns with the guides or other marks on the rod, making it straight.

Let it dry and either add more feathers on top as a pattern or if that is all the feather work, then after it had dried, apply the regular build epoxy like LS Supreme.

After one coat is applied, look for imperfections in the epoxy and sand them off if needed. You can also use a razor blade to cut off dust particles or other imperfections.

After you are satisfied, re-coat this area and that should be it. The feather is done.

Works for me and I hope it helps you or any other member on the board.

Just a word of caution, don't use CP for this unless you are going to coat that whole area (thread) with CP.